

Appl. No. 10/090,015
Response date: October 25, 2005

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Action places a Restriction Requirement on claims 1-20. In reviewing the Action, Applicants note that the Action was taken on the original claims of the application, filed on February 22, 2002, rather than the claims as listed in the Preliminary Amendment, also filed on February 22, 2002. The Preliminary Amendment cancelled claims 1-20, and added claims 21-40. Claims 21-40 are currently pending. The current status is set forth in the above claim listing.

Applicants believe the Preliminary Amendment moots the restriction requirement with regard to claims 1-20. As such, Applicants request the Action be reconsidered in view of the claims presented in the February 22, 2002 Preliminary Amendment. Applicants also note the February 22, 2002 Preliminary Amendment included an amendment to the specification to add cross-references to related applications.

In view of the above response, Applicant believes that the claims are in condition for allowance, and respectfully request that such action be taken. If the Examiner has any questions pertaining to this Amendment or to the subject application in general, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned.

Applicant believes that no additional fees are due with this response. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees, including those under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17, necessitated by this amendment and credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 500477.

Respectfully submitted,



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